

case that switching is to take place in both the lower and upper layers in accordance with said determination.

38. A communication system according to claim 37, wherein, when no lower-layer communication line has been found faulty but any of the upper-layer communication lines has been found faulty, the switching-inhibit signal to the upper-layer apparatuses is cancelled first and then the failure detection is notified to them.--

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments prior to examination is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.38634CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 312-6600